

## State of Florida Department of Children and Families

Ron DeSantis
Governor

Shevaun L. Harris Secretary

March 1, 2023

The Honorable Paul Renner Speaker of the House 420 The Capitol 402 South Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

## Dear Speaker Renner:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit the Annual Report for the Learnfare Program as required by section 414.1251(3), Florida Statutes. The Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) is required to submit the Annual Report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and the Director of the Office of Policy and Budget by March 1 each year.

The Learnfare Program is administered and monitored by DCF. The Learnfare Program is designed to ensure school-aged children in Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) households attend school regularly and their parent(s) or caretaker(s) participate in school conferences. This program is an eligibility requirement for TCA recipients.

The data for the report is provided by DCF and the Department of Education (DOE) to ensure accountability and assess the effectiveness of the Learnfare program by confirming school-aged children and their parent/caretaker are in compliance with the eligibility requirements to continue receiving TCA.

Below is the Annual Report for the Learnfare Program (July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022 reporting period):

- DCF received 5,700 (duplicated) individuals from DOE who were out of compliance. DCF rejected 1,808 individuals identified by DOE and did not impose a sanction for reasons such as: Individuals were no longer active in a cash assistance group, compliance was met before imposing a sanction, the TCA case was closed per customer request, or the household was no longer receiving TCA.
- DCF imposed a sanction on 5,687 duplicated (1,304 unduplicated) students and families as a result of being out of compliance. Most of these individuals were sanctioned multiple times during a month.

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3. DCF reinstated benefits to **487** duplicated (**162** unduplicated) students and families after complying with the Learnfare Program requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (850) 717-4611 or Molly.McKinstry@myflfamilies.com.

Sincerely,

Molly McKinstry Chief of Staff

cc: House Appropriations Committee

House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

House Health and Human Services Committee

House Children, Families and Seniors Subcommittee